ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

Presented is a web-based enterprise management compliant management framework whose back end components are decoupled from the various user interfaces available for accessing the management system. In the Windows environment, the

5   management system of the instant invention is also compliant with the Windows management instrumentation (WMI) requirements. This management system includes WMI providers which implement standard interfaces which decouple all semantic and syntactic checks from the user interface and which provide common error strings, help, etc. to a user regardless of the user interface being used. The providers of the

10   management system of the instant invention store and access data in the active directory. As such, these providers present a customizable user interface which may be based on a user's expertise level and which may be dynamically localized to the user's preferred language. Transaction support is also provided which prevents multiple users from changing the same attributes at the same time through different user interfaces.